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| EXAMINER |
|---|
| LEHNER, WILLIAM P |

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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| 2671 | 3 |

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/076,512 | Applicant(s) WU, PO-CHENG |
|---|---|---|
| | Examiner William P Lehner | Art Unit 2671 |

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.      2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-16_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-16_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _19 February 2002_ is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

    1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

    2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

    3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____ .

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Priority*

1.      Foreign priority has been granted to February 19, 2001.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

2.      The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3.      Claims 1 and 3-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Itoh (5642475).

4.      In regard to claim 1, A moving-path editor used in an animation

editing apparatus for editing a moving path of a selected

multimedia object, Itoh describes a graphic editing apparatus for editing

animated images (column 1, lines 7-16). Animated images correspond to multimedia.

The editor may change the position of these animated objects, optionally with a

predetermined script, so it is a moving-path editor (column 1, lines 17-24).

5.      Comprising: a browser interface Itoh describes an interface for

inputting changes to the movable graphic (column 24, lines 30-34). It is a browser

interface because it allows the user to randomly browse through the menu or toolbar of

the graphic display area, or change settings in the attribute display area (FIG 28).

6.      Including a transition parameter group, a rotation parameter

group and a scale parameter group, Itoh changes the position which is a

translation or transition, enlarges or reduces which is scaling, and rotates (column 1, lines 7-16). Graphics may be grouped together in a hierarchy so that all the graphics in the group move together. A lesser group of graphics lower in the hierarchy, or a single graphic at the bottom of the hierarchy may be transformed independently from the main group (column 3, lines 9-49). A graphic could have multiple transformations operating on it simultaneously. It would have been obvious that these operations may be grouped together so that multiple scale, translate, and rotate transformations can calculated so that the graphic is in the correct position. Translation, rotation, and scale are known as affine transformations. Itoh also refers to transformations as attributes (column 2, lines 21-27).

7.   Which have a plurality of preloaded transition settings, a plurality of preloaded rotation settings and a plurality of preloaded scale settings, respectively; Transformations may be edited using a slider (column 26, lines 40-53 and FIG 25A-C). The slider will initially have a preloaded setting and it is up to the editor to customize the setting. The slider controls the movement of racing objects (column 27, lines 23-42 and FIG 28). The slider or another such graphic may control movement, rotation or enlargement (column 27, lines 43-54) which corresponds to translation, rotation, and scaling.

8.   An input module The interface is an input module (column 24, lines 30-34). For respectively selecting a transition setting, a rotation setting and a scale setting from the preloaded transition settings of the transition parameter group, the preloaded rotation settings of the rotation parameter group and the preloaded scale settings of the scale parameter group; The editor may control the translation, rotation and scale of objects using a slider (column 27, lines 43-54 and FIG 25). Movement of the slider will select the desired transformation setting.

9.   And a combination module for combining the selected transition setting, the selected rotation setting, and the selected scale setting to create the moving path of the selected multimedia object. The graphic information memory is where the transformations

are combined (FIG 1, element 13). FIG 2 shows how the graphic information memory manages the transformations.

10. In regard to claim 3, The moving-path editor of claim 1, wherein the browser interface further includes a list graph for illustrating the preloaded transition settings, the preloaded rotation settings and the preloaded scale settings. Itoh employs a list graph for the menu at the top of FIG 28. The editor may choose from the list of File, View, Edit, Grips, Geometry... A list interface is extremely common. This list interface is not shown to pertain to transition, rotation, and scale settings but this would have been obvious because it is a simple method to add a transformation.

11. In regard to claim 4, The moving-path editor of claim 3, wherein the browser interface further includes a preview area for previewing the corresponding effect of selecting the preloaded transition settings, the preloaded rotation settings and the preloaded scale settings. The graphic display area 18 is a preview area to display attributes edited in the attribute display area 19 (column 12, line 66 – column 13, line 8; column 13, line 50 – column 14, line 3; and FIG 1, elements 11, 18, and 19). Both areas are part of the browser interface.

12. In regard to claims 5-7, The moving-path editor of claim 1, wherein the combination module has an aggregation module for selectively combining at least two of the preloaded transition [rotation and scale] settings to generate the selected transition setting. Applicant defines the aggregation module to be the same thing as the combination module except that it had previously combined the transformation settings (page 8, lines 12-17). The graphic information memory is also the aggregation module because it manages the hierarchy of groups according to the attribute information and calculates the correct final coordinates (column 15, line 63 – column 16, line 60). The attribute information is the transformation settings. These settings may be preloaded with the initial values, or they may have been altered by the editor.

13.   In regard to claims 8-10, The moving-path editor of claim 1,
further comprising an addition/deletion module for adding or
deleting the preloaded transition settings of the transition
[rotation and scale] parameter group. Transformations may be created
(column 12, lines 15-16). Transformation settings are input using a slider that would
initially have a preloaded setting. Itoh's invention is an editing apparatus, and it is
common for editors to be able to delete. It would have been obvious to delete either the
preloaded transformation settings or even an altered setting because the editor may not
like the new transformation. The module for addition/deletion is the graphic editing
means (FIG 1, element 14).

14.   In regard to claim 11, A method of editing a moving path of a
multimedia object, comprising the following steps: selecting a
transition setting from a plurality of preloaded transition
settings pertaining to a transition parameter group; selecting a
rotation setting from a plurality of preloaded rotation settings
pertaining to a rotation parameter group; selecting a scale
setting from a plurality of preloaded scale settings pertaining
to a scale parameter group; creating a moving-path setting by
combining the selected transition setting, the selected rotation
setting and the selected scale setting; Note the above rejections to
claim 1.

15.   And applying the moving-path setting to the multimedia
object for generating the moving path of the multimedia object.
The object group 60 was edited to rotate. This applied in FIG 8A-C (column 19, line 63
— column 20, line 15).

16.   In regard to claim 12-14, The method of claim 11, wherein the step
of creating the moving-path setting further includes a step of
independently accumulating at least two of the preloaded
transition [rotation and scale] settings pertaining to the
transition parameter group to generate the selected transition
setting.   Itoh allows groups to be translated (column 3, lines 9-29) and
simultaneously allows a single graphic to be translated independently of the group

(column 3, lines 38-43). The graphic information memory accumulates these two translations to generate the correct final translation of the graphics.

17.  In regard to claim 15, The method of claim 11, further comprising a step of adding or deleting the preloaded transition settings pertaining to the transition parameter group, the preloaded rotation settings pertaining to the rotation parameter group and the preloaded scale settings pertaining to the scale parameter group. Transformations may be added and deleted (note the rejection to claim 8).

18.  In regard to claim 16, The method of claim 13, further comprising a step of previewing the corresponding effect of selecting the preloaded transition settings, the preloaded rotation settings and the preloaded scale settings in a preview area. The preview area 18 displays the corresponding effect of the attributes 19 (FIG 1).

19.    Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Itoh

(5642475) in view of Hamilton (6559860). The moving-path editor of claim

1, wherein the browser interface further includes a tree graph

for illustrating the preloaded transition settings, the

preloaded rotation settings and the preloaded scale settings. Itoh

does not use a tree graph for illustrating the transition, rotation, and scale settings.

Hamilton teaches a tree graph user interface (Hamilton, FIG 12, element 149) because

it is an organized way to browse through a hierarchy. This tree interface is used to

select groups of objects that move together (Hamilton, abstract, column 4, lines 48-53)

in the same way that Itoh groups objects together that are handled as a single object

(Itoh, column 13, lines 21-36). This hierarchical / tree user interface could have just as

easily been used for the groups of transition, rotation, and scale settings. Therefore, it

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Itoh to use a tree graph interface as taught by Hamilton because it is an organized way to browse through a hierarchy.


### Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William P Lehner whose telephone number is 703-305-0682. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 5 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Zimmerman can be reached on 703-305-9798. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

WPL

JOSEPH MANCUSO
PRIMARY EXAMINER